

REMARKS

This responds to the Final Office Action mailed on October 11, 2007. Claims 1-56 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. By this Amendment, claims 1, 24 and 41 are amended and claims 3 and 26 are cancelled. The Applicant disagrees with the conclusions of the Final Office Action. Nonetheless, claims 1, 24 and 41 have been amended to further distinguish the claims from the cited references. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of these amendments.

The undersigned thanks Examiner Patel for his time and consideration during a telephone interview on December 19, 2007. During the interview, the Examiner agreed that the above amendments would overcome the current rejections. The Examiner indicated that in light of the above amendments a further search would need to be performed to determine patentability.

The Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 24, 41 and 51, along with their respective dependent claims, are patentable over the cited references. Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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